

WE CLAIM:

1. A method of controlling operation of an optical disk drive in a computer device, the computer device including a system controller coupled to the optical disk drive via an IDE bus,
 - a processor coupled to the system controller,
 - a power managing controller coupled to the processor and the system controller and operable in a normal mode, where electric power is supplied to the processor and the system controller, and a suspend mode, where electric power to at least one of the processor and the system controller is disrupted,
 - a keyboard controller coupled to the system controller and the power managing controller and further coupled to the optical disk drive via a serial bus, and
 - a control key set coupled to the keyboard controller,said method comprising:
 - when the power managing controller operates in the suspend mode, enabling the keyboard controller to generate a control signal in accordance with operation of the control key set and received directly by the optical disk drive via the serial bus for controlling operation of the optical disk drive.
2. A computer device comprising:
 - an optical disk drive;
 - a system controller coupled to said optical disk drive via an IDE bus;

a processor coupled to said system controller;
a power managing controller coupled to said processor
and said system controller and operable in a normal mode,
where electric power is supplied to said processor and
5 said system controller, and a suspend mode, where
electric power to at least one of said processor and
said system controller is disrupted;

a keyboard controller coupled to said system
controller and said power managing controller and
10 further coupled to said optical disk drive via a serial
bus; and

a control key set coupled to said keyboard controller;
said keyboard controller generating a control signal
in accordance with operation of said control key set
15 and received directly by said optical disk drive via
said serial bus when said power managing controller
operates in the suspend mode for controlling operation
of said optical disk drive.

3. The computer device as claimed in Claim 2, wherein
20 said serial bus is an RS232 asynchronous serial bus.

4. The computer device as claimed in Claim 2, wherein
said serial bus is an I2C synchronous serial bus.

5. A method of controlling operation of an optical disk
drive in a computer device, the computer device including
25 a system controller coupled to the optical disk drive,
a processor coupled to the system controller,
a power managing controller coupled to the processor

and the system controller and operable in a normal mode,
where electric power is supplied to the processor and
the system controller, and a suspend mode, where electric
power to at least one of the processor and the system
5 controller is disrupted,

a keyboard controller coupled to the system
controller, the power managing controller and the
optical disk drive,

a keyboard unit coupled to the keyboard controller,
10 and

a control key set coupled to the keyboard controller,
said method comprising:

when the power managing controller operates in the
normal mode, enabling the keyboard controller to
15 generate an interrupt request in accordance with
operation of the keyboard unit and received by the
processor through the system controller so as to enable
the processor to generate a control signal corresponding
to the interrupt request and received by the optical
20 disk drive through the system controller and a first
bus in order to control operation of the optical disk
drive in accordance with the interrupt request; and

when the power managing controller operates in the
suspend mode, enabling the keyboard controller to
25 generate a control signal in accordance with operation
of the control key set and received directly by the
optical disk drive via a second bus so as to control

operation of the optical disk drive.

6. A computer device comprising:

an optical disk drive;

5 a system controller coupled to said optical disk drive
via a first bus;

a processor coupled to said system controller;

a power managing controller coupled to said processor
and said system controller and operable in a normal mode,
where electric power is supplied to said processor and
10 said system controller, and a suspend mode, where
electric power to at least one of said processor and
said system controller is disrupted;

a keyboard controller coupled to said system
controller and said power managing controller and
15 further coupled to said optical disk drive via a second
bus;

a keyboard unit coupled to said keyboard controller;
and

a control key set coupled to said keyboard controller;
20 said keyboard controller generating an interrupt
request in accordance with operation of said keyboard
unit and received by said processor through said system
controller when said power managing controller operates
in the normal mode so as to enable said processor to
25 generate a control signal corresponding to the interrupt
request and received by said optical disk drive through
said system controller and said first bus for controlling

operation of said optical disk drive in accordance with the interrupt request;

5 said keyboard controller generating a control signal in accordance with operation of said control key set and received directly by said optical disk drive via said second bus when said power managing controller operates in the suspend mode for controlling operation of said optical disk drive.

10 7. The computer device as claimed in Claim 6, wherein said keyboard controller is operable for restoring operation of said power managing controller from the suspend mode back to the normal mode upon operation of said keyboard unit.

15 8. The computer device as claimed in Claim 6, wherein said first bus is an IDE bus.

9. The computer device as claimed in Claim 6, wherein said second bus is an RS232 asynchronous serial bus.

10. The computer device as claimed in Claim 6, wherein said second bus is an I2C synchronous serial bus.